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Sandstone of Des Moines Age in Fayette Breccia at Robins, Iowa

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SANDSTONE OF DES MOINES AGE IN FAYETTE BRECCIA AT ROBINS, IOWA

S. W. Stookey

In examining the rock exposures in a quarry near the village of Robins, Linn County, Iowa, Mr. R. B. Van Cleve reported finding plant remains in Des Moines sandstone associated with rocks of the Wapsipinnicon Stage of the Iowa Lower Devonian.

Exposures of a terrane carrying a fauna of Devonian age apparently below the Gyroceras beds of the Cedar Valley have been found in Buchanan County and in well drillings containing species of the same fauna in Linn County. This terrane is known as the Independence and has been regarded as older than the Cedar Valley, although the fauna is similar to that of the Upper Devonian Lime Creek formation of Cerro Gordo County.

The discovery by the writer of an extensive exposure of this terrane along the highway west of Middle Amana re-opened the question of the validity of the above interpretation. The finding of Des Moines associated with the Fayette Breccia is regarded as having an important bearing on the question.

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MASTER DRAINAGE DURING DEGLACIATION

Charles Keyes

As occupying the middle of the main lobe of the Ashawa glaciation, the upper Des Moines River held strategic position in one of the strangest drainage recoveries and reversals, during ice-cap retreat, that has ever been recorded. While melting of this Keewatin ice-cap, of the Last Glacial cycle, was going on, the Des Moines River played a curious part. It carried off the major volume of melt-waters for an interval of 300 years, until the ice had melted back to Blue Earth, Minnesota, on the drainage divide between the Des Moines and the Minnesota rivers. Then the greatly in-